



# NEWS RELEASE

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## CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNIT RETURNS FROM SOUTHWEST ASIA

Bristol, Conn., - Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard announces that 40 soldiers from C Company, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalion of Bristol will arrive at Ft. Sill, OK, on Sunday, March 20, 2005 from Southwest Asia.

The unit deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It mobilized in January 2004, and departed for Ft. Hood, Texas on January 8, 2004 and linked up with and became part of the 39<sup>th</sup> Brigade from Arkansas. In March 2004 the unit arrived in Kuwait processed through and went forward into Iraq.

The demobilization process begin on Monday March 21, 2005. The unit is expected to arrive in Connecticut by the end of the week. By early summer the unit will be released from active duty.

Two members were killed from the Connecticut National Guard, Sgt. Felix Del Greco of Simsbury and Spec. Robert Hoyt of Ashford both from C Company, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry.

“C Company has done an outstanding job and has played an integral role in the Global War on Terror,” said Cugno. “The families and I look forward to their return to Connecticut. “I commend them and the unit for enduring the hardships of a 18-month separation.”